GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2294
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2016
Freight Activities
George Shri (Adv.) Joice

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the total freight activities being undertaken in domestic shipping in the country at present;
(b) whether this is at par with international freight activities, if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase freight activities in domestic shipping in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)&(b):In the year 2014-15, the Indian ports handled 172.67 million tonnes coastal cargo while overseas cargo handled was 879.56 million tonnes

(c) Ministry of Shipping has taken following steps to increase freight activities in domestic shipping in the country.

(i) Support to Major/Non-Major ports/State Government for creation of infrastructure for movement of coastal cargo.

(ii) Relaxation of technical and operational requirement for ships operating in Indian coast.

(iii) All major ports have been advised to introduce Green Channel for coastal cargo, priority berthing for coastal vessels and construction of exclusive coastal berths.

(iv) Removal of customs and central excise duty on bunker fuel used for transportation of mix of EXIM, empty and domestic containers.

(v) Reduction of service tax incidence on coastal shipping.

(vi) Cabotage relaxation for specialized vessels such as Ro-Ro, Hybrid Ro-Ro, Ro-Pax, Pure Car Carriers, Pure Car and Truck Carriers, LNG vessels and Over Dimensional Cargo or Project Cargo Carriers which are in short supply in India.

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